

JUL 22 1964

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 17, 1964

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you very much for your very stimulating response.

I am much intrigued by the Science Citation Index for if such a process could be applied generally it would be a very great advance.

In my opinion, however, before such index, clearing houses, abstracting services, etc. can really be complete and precise and quick in their programs, certain fundamentals must be available. It is these which I have tried to provide...namely, a specific goal, advisory mechanisms and funds, a method for developing common standard, codes and glossaries and compatability, together with research and education for the manpower so badly needed.

With a central repository of tapes, etc. tied into a net, the convenience and usefulness to a system like SCITEL should be immense.

I have attempted to preserve existing functions and holdings and customers and to keep the concept as simple as possible.

The big problem now seems to be where to place it in government in order to protect it from the "petty politics and bureaucracy" which you point to.

While I am trying not to get involved in details of application, operation, or hardware, I will be glad to talk with Dr. Garfield.

Cordially,



Stafford L. Warren, M.D.  
Special Assistant  
to the President  
for Mental Retardation

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics  
Stanford University Medical Center  
300 Pasteur Drive  
Palo Alto, California

STAFFORD

WARREN